

INDEX-TRIBUNE.
COMMUNICATIONS UPON MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST.
Communications designed to call attention to any matter of local or individual interest will not be inserted unless paid for as an advertisement.
The editor's responsibility must accompany all communications, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. This rule will not be deviated from.

THE BLOWING UP OF THE SCHOONER PARALLEL reads like a romance. She left San Francisco one day last week bound north with 80,000 pounds of giant powder aboard. After crossing the bar she became unmanageable and was deserted by captain and crew. Drifting into the breakers, she was thrown on the rocks at the foot of the Cliff House about one o'clock Sunday morning. Being at the mercy of the breakers she was lifted and pounded against the rocks by each succeeding comber until, at last, the concussion ignited the powder and in a twinkling the schooner was blown to atoms. Spars, masts and iron bolts were sent whirling in every direction and the famous Cliff House, on the rocky cliffs overhead, was badly wrecked by the force of the concussion and the flying timbers of the unlucky craft. That no lives were lost is a miracle, as the Cliff House, which contained a number of sleeping inmates, was rent almost assunder. Truly, this tale of the sea, as narrated by the city papers, is one of the most singular that has ever happened on these shores.

A GREAT deal of fun, mixed with considerable envious and bitter malice, says the *Sacramento Bee*, is being poked at H. M. de Young because of his alleged unsuccessful attempts to climb the social ladder in San Francisco. We know nothing of Mr. de Young's aspirations in that direction; but, if he really have that ambition, he is endeavoring to pluck "the Dead Sea fruit that turns to ashes on the lips." What is the alleged society of San Francisco that men should hunger and be athirst for it? Does it not embrace embezzlers who have hidden in the coal bunk of departing vessels to escape justice; State officials, whom the statutes of limitations and a lax jury system have saved from San Quentin; ex-keepers of low sailor gin mills, now rolling in wealth wrong from defrauded widows and orphans; middle-aged libertines who have been publicly horse-whipped by the mothers of seduced daughters—together with various criminals of higher or lower degree? We have very little respect for them, but we have equally as little for Mr. de Young if he is really endeavoring to lower himself to the level of such a crowd.

THE first week of the convening of the Legislature there was a wild scramble for the places at the disposal of the presiding officers of the Senate and Assembly. It is said that there were seven hundred applicants for thirty positions. That means, of course, that after the appointments had been made, 670 sad-eyed individuals wended their way homeward to take up the weary humdrum affairs of life, while but thirty remained to scoop in their \$5 a day and hob-nob with the big bugs that most do congregate at the Capital when the Legislature is in session.

WINE jobbers from San Francisco, says the *St. Helena Star*, have been in town the past week trying to buy wine at the low price of 16 and 18 cents per gallon. Needless to say they find none for sale at that price. We are of the opinion that if our wine men will hold on for a few weeks they will have no trouble in obtaining from 20 to 25 cents.

THE Senatorial contest was a tame affair and George Hearst walked off with the honors easily. As anticipated he received twelve majority on joint ballot.

FATHER J. J. UPCHURCH, the founder of the A. O. U. W., died in St. Louis, Mo., last Tuesday.

THE Senate has confirmed the nomination of John T. Campbell of Santa Rosa as Consul at Auckland.

Best iodides and vegetable alternatives make Ayer's Sarsaparilla the best blood medicine.

THE NOVATO CONNECTION.
Last week Col. Mervyn Donahue, President of the Marin and Napa Railroad Company, petitioned the Supervisors to grant him the privilege of constructing a draw-bridge across Petaluma Creek, and requesting them to have the State Engineer make the necessary surveys at the crossing point. The Board has communicated with that officer and when he has completed his task, which will consume but a few days, Col. Donahue's petition will no doubt be granted. This is the first step toward connecting the Sonoma Valley Railroad with the San Francisco and North Pacific, the advantages of which have already been set forth in these columns. The surveys have been made and right of way secured across the marsh lands from Novato, on the line of the latter road, to Sears' Point on the line of former. The rails for the new road have been lying at Novato for some time, and the contract for supplying the ties has been let. We have it from good authority that work will commence in a few months and be pushed through to speedy completion.

The new road will commence at Novato and connect at Sears' Point with the Sonoma Valley Railroad, which will be widened to a broad gauge from that point to Sonoma. From here the track will be built around Huichicha Hills and across to Napa Junction, where it will connect with the Southern Pacific. The advantages of this road are almost inestimable. It will not only make Sonoma Valley a suburb of San Francisco, but will also connect us with iron bands with the markets of the East.

THE RAIN.
The rain has come at last. On Tuesday and Wednesday between two and three inches fell in this section, which ensures good crops and an abundance of feed for stock throughout the county. The rain appears to have been general all over the State, and the prospects for a heavy wheat crop in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys, the coming season are as favorable as could be desired. With a few more inches of rain in February and March, it is safe to predict an abundant harvest throughout the length and breadth of California. So far the rainfall has been very light, probably not averaging five inches for Central and Southern California, but it has come when it would do the most good, and has really been of more benefit in some sections than if double the amount had fallen.

The unusual number of Senatorial contests throughout the country are watched with much interest. Michigan sends another millionaire to the Senate in Col. Stockbridge, who is one of her largest lumber merchants. Ex-Governor Davis of Minnesota, who will be Senator McMillan's successor, read law with Senator Matt Carpenter, after the war, and soon arose to a high place in the legal profession. Dawes succeeded himself in Massachusetts, as does Hale in Maine. M. S. Quay has been elected in Pennsylvania and Frank Hiseox will represent New York.

COUNTY ITEMS.
Sebastopol is to have a new hotel that will accommodate seventy-five guests.
B. Haskell, a prominent citizen of Petaluma, died in that city, Thursday, aged 70 years.
Fried, who was shot by J. C. Jones at Guerneville, last week, is not so dangerously hurt as was at first supposed, and is rapidly recovering from his wounds.
A. Neece, formerly Postmaster of Santa Rosa and at one time proprietor of the Grand Hotel in that city, died in Yuba county on the 13th inst.

J. D. Thompson, a pioneer citizen of Petaluma, while at work on the new City Hall in that place, Saturday, fell from a scaffold and sustained injuries which caused his death the following day.

Jailor Breitenbach has discovered another attempt on the part of the prisoners confined in the County Jail to break out. The *Democrat* says the work was done at no very distant date, and evidently by those who understood the business. The bolts of one of the cells were filed off and the aperture filled with wax. The fastenings of the lock were filed in the same manner and concealed.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, JAN. 11, 1887.
Both Houses of Congress have been occupied part of the week with private legislation, as the passage of about forty-five pension bills will show; but important public measures have also been discussed. Among these may be mentioned the great question of Interstate commerce, which the Senate expects to dispose of on Wednesday next, and the Mexican Reciprocity treaty which is being treated behind barred doors.

When the bill granting a pension of \$2,000 a year to the widow of Gen. Logan came up, a good deal was said as to whether or not the Senator's death was in any way the result of wounds or exposure in the army. Several Senators argued that it was, and Senator Mitchell mentioned that he had once heard Gen. Logan say that he did not intend to ask for it.

About this time Senator Vest of Missouri came forward with a glowing description of the service to the Union of General Francis Blair, and proposed an amendment to increase the pension of \$50 a month, now paid his widow, to \$2,000 a year. This was quite a surprise to some of the Senators, but they told Mr. Vest they would vote to increase Mrs. Blair's pension as a separate measure if he would withdraw his proposition. Mr. Vest took note of these fair promises and resumed his seat. Then Senator Berry of Arkansas, who rarely speaks in the Senate chamber, arose to say that if Mrs. Logan was to have \$2,000 a year, he did not see why every widow of every officer from Major Generals to Lieutenants should not have the same. He expressed high regard for the dead Senator, but he felt sure that Gen. Logan himself would not desire his widow to be put on the pension roll. Shortly after this the bill passed, but the Arkansas Senator did not vote either way.

Immediately Senator Vest was on his feet again asking permission to introduce a bill out of order, and offering a measure to increase the pension of Gen. Blair's widow to \$2,000 a year. The Senators were again surprised, but they were in a generous mood, and not being able to turn so quickly from the promises they had made while Mrs. Logan's pension was up, they voted as requested by the Senator from Missouri. Mr. Vest smiled complacently at his achievement and the Senate proceeded with routine business.

There are different rumors in regard to another tariff crisis, but it is probable the question as to whether revenue matters are to be taken up in the House this session will be settled within two or three days. Mr. Morrison is watching. When Mr. Morrison was asked when he would try again to call up his tariff bill, he replied: "As soon as enough of those who voted against me before, come to me and say that they will vote with me. As soon as they know the motion will be carried, I will make it." "What are you going to do about the tariff?" was asked of one of the best informed of Mr. Randall's followers. "We are going to reduce the revenue," he answered. "If Mr. Morrison does not move soon, Mr. Randall will take the initiative."

The definite result of the caucus held at Mr. Randall's house a few evenings since was a decision to call up their revenue propositions, which favors a repeal of the tobacco tax, the tax on alcohol used in the arts and certain special liquor license taxes. When the motion will be made is a secret, Mr. Randall being desirous of keeping his opponents ignorant on this point. But the Speaker has conceded that Mr. Randall has a right to recognition and his motion will most likely be carried by a good majority. What will happen after that no one in the House can predict.

The fact that Gen. Logan leaves only a few thousand dollars to his family after a long career in Congress, has surprised many people who have had an idea that the United States Senate was a sort of asylum for rich men. It is true there are a good many millionaires in the north end of the Capitol, but there are more who are only comfortably well off, and some who are as poor and even poorer than Gen. Logan.

There are just fifteen members of the Upper House who are reputed to own a million or more. These are Senators Bowen of Cal., Brown of Ga., Camden of W. Va., Cameron of Pa., Fair of Nevada, Hale of Me., Jones of Nevada, Mahone of Va., McPherson of N. J., Palmer of Mich., Payne of O., Sawyer of Wis., Sherman of O., Stanford of Cal. The latter, with Senators Fair and Palmer, are said to be twenty and thirty times millionaires, while Mr. Withers of Tennessee is accredited with more poverty than any other Senator. There are several, however, who have to live entirely on their salaries.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

The Donahue People to Build a Draw-Bridge Across Petaluma Creek.
The Board met pursuant to adjournment, after having visited the Mayacamas Creek bridge for the purpose of more thoroughly examining the same. At 9 o'clock the Chairman called the members to order, after which the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

In the matter of the Mayacamas Creek bridge, Mr. Allen moved that excavations be made around the four piers to firm bed-rock; that a crib of plank be constructed around said piers, either square or triangular, in which shall be deposited concrete from bed-rock to a height of not less than one foot above the base of pier, all of said work to be done to the satisfaction of a proper superintendent appointed by the Board.

The following clause was added and the motion carried: "That in consideration that the contractor has agreed to file a proper bond, approved by the Board, obligating himself to maintain said bridge in good repair for a term of two years, from January 1, 1887."

In the matter of the Dry Creek bridge, the Board decided to accept the same when completed according to contract and the contractors shall have filed a good and sufficient bond to keep the approaches in good condition for travel for ten years. On motion, a change in the public highway from Walter's gate to the quicker river was granted.

On motion of Mr. Coulter, the price list for printing, advertising, book-binding, stationery and general supplies established for the year 1886 was adopted for the year 1887. The contractors' bills were then taken up and the following claims allowed: G. W. Sparks, \$23.95; T. M. Harris, \$33; I. B. Charles, \$5.40; C. Cook, \$5.90; D. C. Clanton, \$7.80; J. J. Lowery, \$18.10; W. H. Mead, \$10.40; C. H. Holmes, \$160.

The Board then adjourned until Thursday morning at 9 o'clock.

THURSDAY, January 12th.
Board met at 9 A. M., members all present and the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

In pursuance of an order of the Superior Court, directing the Board to draw 100 grand jurors and 400 trial jurors to serve for the year 1887 or until a new jury is drawn, the Board proceeded with said drawing, which consumed the entire day.

An evening session was held which was devoted to discussing the construction of an iron bridge across Santa Rosa Creek, but no definite action was taken in regard to the matter. The Board then adjourned until Friday morning.

FRIDAY, January 14th.
The Board met at 9 A. M. Present, Chairman O'Hara, Supervisors Allen, Coulter, Connolly and Davis.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved. The matter of the Santa Rosa Creek and Mark West creek bridges was again taken up. Supervisor Allen moved that a contract for the construction of one iron bridge over Santa Rosa Creek, at the foot of Third street, be awarded to the King Bridge Company for \$2,850; and that a contract for one combination bridge over Mark West Creek, at the foot of Second street, be awarded to the same company for the sum of \$2,540, the above awards being made on bids filed by the aforesaid company with the clerk at contract price for the construction of the Santa Rosa bridge to be paid out of the funds of Santa Rosa County, and the contract price for the Mark West bridge to be paid from the General Fund of the county.

This motion, being satisfactory to all, was unanimously adopted. Supervisor Allen moved that the bond of the American Bridge Company, to keep the Santa Rosa Creek bridge in repair, be approved and a warrant drawn in favor of the company in the sum of \$725.00. The motion was carried. Mr. Connolly voting in the affirmative. The matter of the petition of J. M. Donahue, President of the Marin and Napa Railroad Company, for permission to build a draw-bridge across Petaluma Creek, also praying the Board to communicate with the State Engineer and request the said engineer to make the necessary survey at the point indicated in the petition. The petition was received and placed on file and a motion made and carried that it be referred to a committee of three members to be appointed by the Board to be of the opinion.

Drawing of jurors was then resumed and occupied the Board up to the hour of adjournment.

SATURDAY, January 15th.
The Board met this date pursuant to adjournment, all members present, and Mr. O'Hara in the chair.

After the minutes of the previous day's proceedings had been read and approved, the resignation of S. Buckmaster, the recently appointed Road Overseer of Santa Rosa township, was received and accepted, and C. T. Caldwell appointed to fill the vacancy.

On motion of Mr. Allen, the Road Overseer of Santa Rosa district was authorized to open and construct a roadway along Sonoma Avenue extension, over the lands of the Santa Rosa Water Company to the land of Mr. Allen.

The matter of the Court House grounds coming up, Mr. Allen moved that the Court House grounds be properly fenced and lawns laid out with appropriate walks, and that additional steps be placed at the several entrances to the Court House, and the Clerk be authorized to advertise for bids for granite bordering for the same, and to place granite steps, and to advertise for separate bids for iron fence around said grounds; all of said work to be done in accordance with plans and specifications on file in the Clerk's office. So ordered.

In the matter of the petition of Colonel J. M. Donahue, President of the Marin and Napa Railroad Company, requesting the Board to communicate with the State Engineer in regard to the construction of a railroad bridge across Petaluma Creek, Mr. Coulter moved that the Clerk notify the State Engineer that the Board desire him to make the survey desired by Col. Donahue. So ordered.

The Supervisor of each district, on motion of Mr. Connolly, was empowered to purchase such road machines as in his judgment may be best adapted for the several road districts under his supervision. The Board then adjourned until Monday, January 17, 1887, at 10:30 A. M.

WELL-CARTER.—In San Francisco, January 10th, by Rev. J. R. Bond, Rev. F. J. All of Vallejo, and Miss Mollie A. Carter of Kewanna, Indiana.
HOTZ-ENLOW.—In Santa Rosa, January 10th, by Rev. Geo. Clifford, Mr. G. H. Heitz and Miss Emma A. Enlow, both of Sonoma.

FLURY.—In San Francisco, January 13th, Augustine Flury, a native of Missouri, aged 57 years.

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